

Historic, Archive Document

Do not assume content reflects current
scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

Reserve
1.96
R31FSN

FEDERAL - STATE - PRIVATE
OPERATIVE SNOW SURVEYS

NLM-NP
6/1/71/62



U. S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL LIBRARY
RECEIVED

OCT 18 1971

PROCUREMENT SECTION
CURRENT SERIAL RECORDS

WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK FOR NEVADA

Prepared by

U. S. DEPARTMENT of AGRICULTURE ★ SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

Collaborating with

**NEVADA DEPARTMENT of CONSERVATION and NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION of WATER RESOURCES**

Data included in this report were obtained by the agencies named above in cooperation with Federal, State and private organizations listed on the last page of this report.

AS OF
MAY 1, 1971

TO RECIPIENTS OF WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK REPORTS:

Most of the usable water in western states originates as mountain snowfall. This snowfall accumulates during the winter and spring, several months before the snow melts and appears as streamflow. Since the runoff from precipitation as snow is delayed, estimates of snowmelt runoff can be made well in advance of its occurrence. Streamflow forecasts published in this report are based principally on measurement of the water equivalent of the mountain snowpack.

Forecasts become more accurate as more of the data affecting runoff are measured. All forecasts assume that climatic factors during the remainder of the snow accumulation and melt season will interact with a resultant average effect on runoff. Early season forecasts are therefore subject to a greater change than those made on later dates.

The snow course measurement is obtained by sampling snow depth and water equivalent at surveyed and marked locations in mountain areas. A total of about ten samples are taken at each location. The average of these are reported as snow depth and water equivalent. These measurements are repeated in the same location near the same dates each year.

Snow surveys are made monthly or semi-monthly from January 1 through June 1 in most states. There are about 1900 snow courses in Western United States and in the Columbia Basin in British Columbia. Networks of automatic snow water equivalent and related data sensing devices, along with radio telemetry are expanding and will provide a continuous record of snow water and other parameters of key locations.

Detailed data on snow course and soil moisture measurements are presented in state and local reports. Other data on reservoir storage, summaries of precipitation, current streamflow, and soil moisture conditions at valley elevations are also included. The report for Western United States presents a broad picture of water supply outlook conditions, including selected streamflow forecasts, summary of snow accumulation to date, and storage in larger reservoirs.

Snow survey and soil moisture data for the period of record are published by the Soil Conservation Service by states about every five years. Data for the current year is summarized in a West-wide basic data summary and published about October 1 of each year.

PUBLISHED BY SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

The Soil Conservation Service publishes reports following the principal snow survey dates from January 1 through June 1 in cooperation with state water administrators, agricultural experiment stations and others. Copies of the reports for Western United States and all state reports may be obtained from Soil Conservation Service, Western Regional Technical Service Center, Room 209, 701 N. W. Glisan, Portland, Oregon 97209.

Copies of state and local reports may also be obtained from state offices of the Soil Conservation Service in the following states:

STATE	ADDRESS
Alaska	P. O. Box "F", Palmer, Alaska 99645
Arizona	6029 Federal Building, Phoenix, Arizona 85025
Colorado (N. Mex.)	12417 Federal Building, Denver, Colorado 80202
Idaho	Room 345, 304 N. 8th. St., Boise, Idaho 83702
Montana	P. O. Box 970, Bozeman, Montana 59715
Nevada	P. O. Box 4850, Reno Nevada 89505
Oregon	1218 S. W. Washington St., Portland, Oregon 97205
Utah	4012 Federal Bldg., 125 South State St., Salt Lake City, Utah 84111
Washington	360 U.S. Court House, Spokane, Washington 99201
Wyoming	P. O. Box 2440, Casper, Wyoming 82601

PUBLISHED BY OTHER AGENCIES

Water Supply Outlook reports prepared by other agencies include a report for California by the Water Supply Forecast and Snow Surveys Unit, California Department of Water Resources, P. O. Box 388, Sacramento, California 95802 --- and for British Columbia by the Department of Lands, Forests and Water Resources, Water Resources Service, Parliament Building, Victoria, British Columbia



WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK FOR NEVADA

and
FEDERAL - STATE - PRIVATE COOPERATIVE SNOW SURVEYS

Issued by

KENNETH E. GRANT

ADMINISTRATOR
SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

|||||
Released by

CHARLES A. KRALL

STATE CONSERVATIONIST
SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE
RENO, NEVADA

In Cooperation with

ELMO J. DE RICCO

DIRECTOR
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND
NATURAL RESOURCES
CARSON CITY, NEVADA
|||||

Report prepared by

DONALD W. McANDREW, Snow Survey Supervisor
and

JOHN D. RODA, Assistant Snow Survey Supervisor
SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE
P. O. BOX 4850
RENO, NEVADA

INDEX TO NEVADA SNOW COURSES (By Basins)

Refer to the map on the following page for Snow Course locations.

NUMBER	NAME	SEC.	TWP.	RGE.	ELEV.
--------	------	------	------	------	-------

SNAKE RIVER BASIN

15H1MA	BEAR CREEK	31	46N	58E	7800
15H2	FOX CREEK	33	46N	58E	6800
15H13A	GOAT CREEK	31	46N	60E	8800
15H15A	HUMMINGBIRD SPRINGS	6	45N	60E	8945
14H1	JAKES CREEK	6	42N	62E	7000
15H20a	MERRITT MOUNTAIN	10	46N	54E	7000
15H14	POLE CREEK RANGER STATION	13	46N	59E	8330
15H18a	RED POINT	15	47N	61E	7940
15H3A	76 CREEK	6	44N	58E	7100
15H19a	5TAG MTN.	29	41N	58E	7800

OWYHEE RIVER

15H4MP	BIG BEND	30	45N	56E	6700
16H6a	COLUMBIA BASIN	31	44N	53E	6650
16H8a	FAWN CREEK	2	45N	52E	7000
15H5	GOLD CREEK	32	45N	56E	6600
16H1M	JACK CREEK, LOWER	18	42N	53E	6800
16H2A	JACK CREEK, UPPER	9	42N	53E	7250
16H4	JACKS PEAK	28	42N	53E	8420
16H5	LAUREL CRAW	20	45N	53E	6700
17G4a	LOUSE CANYON (OREG.)	27	40S	44E	6440
15H9MP	TAYLOR CANYON	35	39N	53E	6200

INTERIOR

UPPER HUMBOLOT RIVER

15J17a	AMERICAN BEAUTY	32	31N	58E	7800
15J12A	CORRAL CANYON	27	28N	57E	8500
15J1MP	CORSEY BASIN	28	35N	60E	8100
15J3	ORY CREEK	5	40E	65E	6500
15H7	FRY CANYON	31	43N	54E	6700
15J9MP	GREEN MOUNTAIN	23	29N	57E	8000
15J10	HARRISON PASS #1	9	28N	57E	6600
15J11	HARRISON PASS #2	16	28N	57E	7400
15J4	LAMOILLE #1	15	32N	58E	7100
15J5	LAMOILLE #2	14	32N	58E	7200
15J6M	LAMOILLE #3	24	32N	58E	7700
15J7	LAMOILLE #4	19	32N	59E	8000
15J8P	LAMOILLE #5	31	32N	59E	8700
15J18a	POLE CANYON	31	35N	61E	9140
15J16a	ROBINSON LAKE	23	33N	59E	9200
15H6MP	RODNEY FLAT	36	43N	53E	6800
15J2	RYAN RANCH	1	34N	59E	5800
15H8	TREMEAN RANCH	9	39N	55E	5700
15H10P	TROUT CREEK, LOWER	28	37N	61E	6900
15H11A	TROUT CREEK, UPPER	4	36N	61E	8500

LOWER HUMBOLOT RIVER

17K1	BIG CREEK CAMP GROUND	10	17N	43E	6600
17K2	BIG CREEK MINE	23	17N	43E	7600
17K3	BIG CREEK, UPPER	26	17N	43E	7800
17H2	BUCKSKIN, LOWER	25	45N	39E	6700
17H1	BUCKSKIN, UPPER	11	45N	39E	8200
17L1	CORRAL, LOWER	12	11N	40E	7500
17L2	CORRAL, UPPER	20	11N	41E	8000
17J2	GOLCONDA #2	22	35N	39E	6000
17H4	GRANITE PEAK	22	44N	39E	7800
17H5	LAMANCE CREEK	13	42N	40E	6000
17H3	MARTIN CREEK	18	44N	40E	6700
16H3AP	MIOAS	18	39N	46E	7200
16H7	TOE JAM a	29	40N	50E	7700

EASTERN NEVADA

14L1	BAKER #1	29	13N	69E	7950
14L2	BAKER #2	30	13N	69E	8950
14L3	BAKER #3	25	13N	68E	9250
14K2	BERRY CREEK	26	17N	65E	9100
14K1	BIRD CREEK	34	19N	65E	7500
15J13	CAVE CREEK	25	27N	57E	7500
15J14	HAGER CANYON	34	27N	57E	8000
15J15	HOLE-IN-MTN	6	35N	61E	7900
14K8	KALAMAZOO CREEK	34	20N	65E	7400
14K3	MURRAY SUMMIT	25	16N	62E	7250
15K1	ROBINSON SUMMIT	34	18N	61E	7600
14K7	SILVER CREEK #2	30	16N	69E	8000
14K5	WARD MOUNTAIN #2	25	15N	62E	8900

CENTRAL GREAT BASIN

18M2	CAMPITO MTN (CAL.)	19	55	35E	10200
18M5a	CHIATOVICH FLAT	32	25	34E	10500
15N2	CLARK CANYON	8	19S	56E	9000
18M1	MONTGOMERY PASS	4	1N	33E	7110
18M3a	PINCHOT CREEK	28	1N	33E	9300
18M4a	PIUTE PASS (CAL.)	33	45	33E	11700
15N1	TROUGH SPRINGS	23	18S	55E	8500

NORTHERN GREAT BASIN

19H1	BALO MOUNTAIN	17	45N	21E	6720
20H5	BARBER CREEK (CAL.)	23	39N	16E	6500
20H6	CEGAR PASS (CAL.)	12	43N	14E	7100
18G6a	CEGAR CREEK (OREG.)	14	41S	34E	6000
19H1	OLDFATHER PEAK	8	47N	34E	6500
20H3a	OISMAL SWAMP (CAL.)	31	48N	22E	7000
20H7	EAGLE PEAK (CAL.)	35	40N	15E	7200
19H3	49-MTN	7	42N	19E	6000
19H2	HAYS CANYON	1	39N	18E	6400
19H4a	LITTLE BALLY MTN	8	45N	19E	6000
20H9	MT. BOWELL	6	47N	16E	7200
20H10	NORTH STAR	13	47N	15E	6200
17G5a	OREGON CANYON (OREG.)	9	40S	40E	7240
17H6a	QUINN RIDGE	9	47N	41E	6300
20H4	RESERVATION CREEK (CAL.)	12	46N	15E	5900
18G5a	TROUT CREEK (OREG.)	10	41S	38E	7800

NUMBER	NAME	SEC.	TWP.	RGE.	ELEV.
--------	------	------	------	------	-------

LAKE TAHOE

20L5	ECHO SUMMIT (CAL.)	6	11N	18E	7450
19L2	FREEL BENCH (CAL.)	36	12N	18E	7300
19K6	GLENBROOK #2	13	14N	18E	6900
19L3M5Z	HAGANS MEADOW (CAL.)	36	12N	18E	8000
20L4	LAKE LUCILLE (CAL.)	28	12N	17E	8200
19K4M5TZ	MARLETTE LAKE	18	15N	19E	8000
20L3	RICHARDSON #2 (CAL.)	6	12N	18E	6500
20L1	RUBICON #1 (CAL.)	6	13N	17E	8100
20L2	RUBICON #2 (CAL.)	6	13N	17E	7500
20K16	TAHOE CITY (CAL.)	6	15N	17E	6250
19L1	UPPER TRUCKEE (CAL.)	21	12N	18E	6400
20K17M	WARD CREEK (CAL.)	21	15N	16E	7000
20K255TZ	WARD CREEK #2 (CAL.)	21	15N	16E	6750

TRUCKEE RIVER

20K14	80CA #2 (CAL.)	28	18N	17E	5900
20K22	BROCKWAY SUMMIT (CAL.)	3	17N	16E	7100
20K21	CONNER PARK #2 (CAL.)	18	17N	16E	6000
20K10*	CONNER SUMMIT (CAL.)	25	17N	14E	6900
20K7*	FOROYCE LAKE (CAL.)	34	18N	13E	6500
20K8	FURNACE FLAT (CAL.)	10	17N	13E	6700
19L1C	HEAVENLY VALLEY	1	12N	17E	8850
20K4MP	INDEPENDENCE CAMP (CAL.)	34	19N	15E	7000
20K3	INDEPENDENCE CREEK (CAL.)	14	19N	15E	6500
20K5	INDEPENDENCE LAKE (CAL.)	9	18N	15E	8450
19K3	LITTLE VALLEY	17	16N	19E	6300
19K2	MT. ROSE	7	17N	19E	9000
19K7	MT. ROSE 5KI AREA	30	17N	19E	9000
20K6	SAGE HEN CREEK (CAL.)	7	18N	16E	6500
20K19	SQUAW VALLEY #2 (CAL.)	17	15N	16E	7500
20K13M	TRUCKEE #2 (CAL.)	22	17N	16E	6400
20K2	WEBBER LAKE (CAL.)	29	19N	14E	7000
20K1*	WEBBER PEAK (CAL.)	30	19N	14E	8000

CARSON RIVER

19L5	BLUE LAKES (CAL.)	30	9N	19E	8000
19L4	CARSON PASS, UPPER (CAL.)	22	10N	18E	8600
19K5	CLEAR CREEK	6	14N	19E	7300
19L19a	EBBETTS PASS (CAL.)	17	8N	20E	8700
19L16a	FISH VALLEY, UPPER (CAL.)	18	7N	22E	8050
19L06a	POISON FLAT (CAL.)	25	8N	21E	7900
19L18a	WET MEADOWS LAKE (CAL.)	26	9N	19E	8100
19L20a	WOLF CREEK (CAL.)	35	8N	20E	8000

WALKER RIVER

19L11	BUCKEYE FORKS (CAL.)	20	4N	23E	8500
19L10	BUCKEYE ROUGHS (CAL.)	15	4N	23E	7900
19L12A	CENTER MOUNTAIN (CAL.)	4	3N	23E	9400
18L1	LAPON MEADOW	36	8N	28E	9000
19L8	LEAVITT MEADOWS (CAL.)	4	5N	22E	7200
19L17a	LOBDELL LAKE (CAL.)	20	7N	24E	9200
18L2	MT. GRANT	23	8N	28E	9000
19L7M	SONORA PASS (CAL.)	1	5N	21E	8800
19L235TZ	SONORA PASS BRIDGE	6	5N	22E	8800
19M1*	TIOGA PASS (CAL.)	30	1N	25E	9900
19L13M	VIRGINIA LAKES (CAL.)	5	2N	25E	9500
19L9	WILLOW FLAT (CAL.)	31	5N	23E	8250
19L22aZ	VIRGINIA LAKES RIDGE	32	3N	25E	9200

COLORADO

LOWER COLORADO RIVER

15N5	KYLE CANYON	27	19S	56E	8200
15N4	LEE CANYON #1	10	19S	56E	8400
15N3	LEE CANYON #2	9	19S	56E	8500
15N6	LEE CANYON #3	10	19S	56E	9200
14M1	MATHEW CANYON	10	6S	70E	6000
14M2	PINE CANYON	23	6S	69E	6200
15N7	RAINBOW CANYON #2	6	20S	57E	8100
15L1	WHITE RIVER #1	31	13N	59E	7400

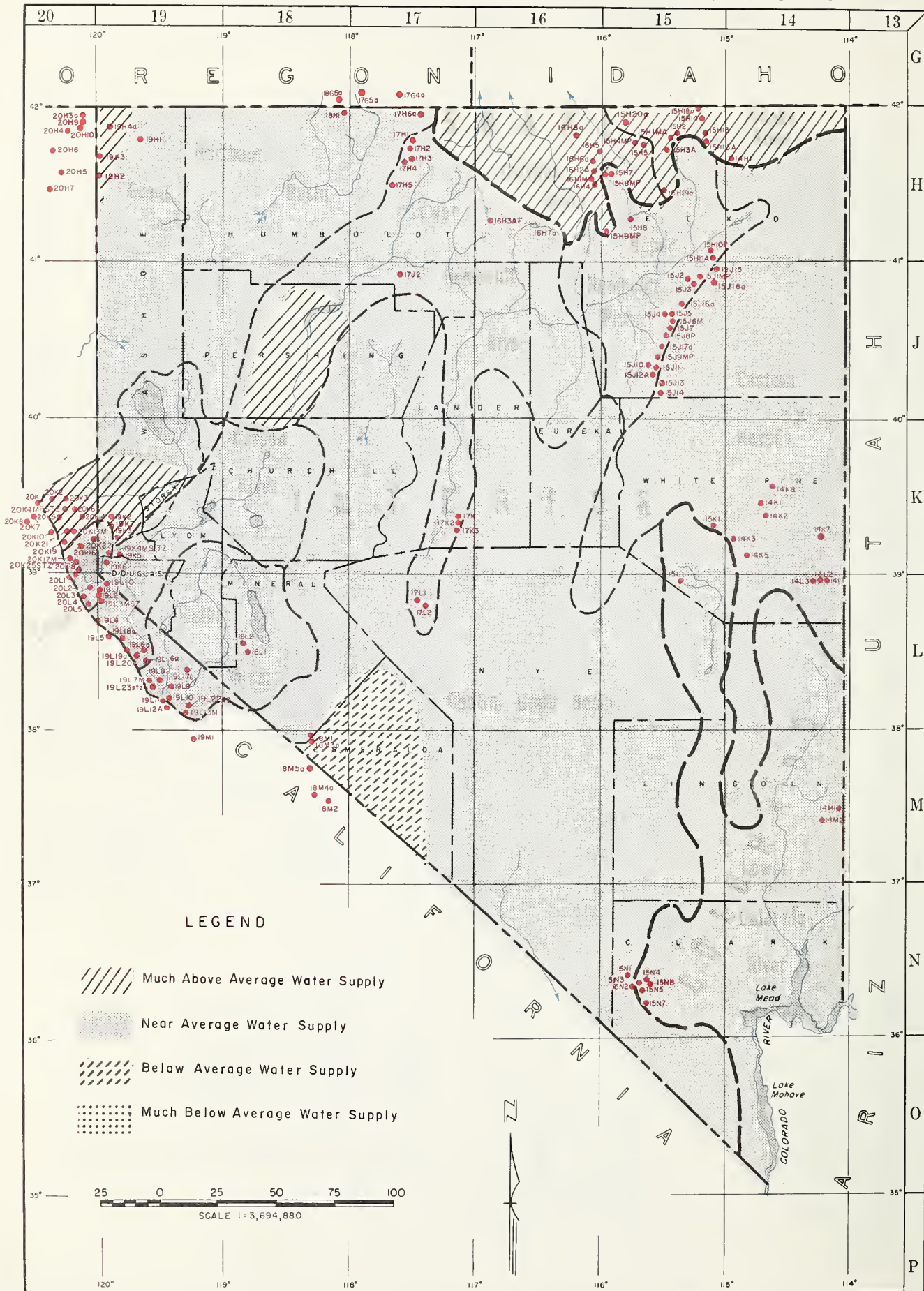
LEGEND NUMBERING SYSTEM (EXAMPLE)

19K4	SNOW COURSE ONLY
19K45	SNOW COURSE AND SNOW PILLLOW
19K4M	SNOW COURSE AND SOIL MOISTURE
19K4A	SNOW COURSE AND AERIAL MARKER
19K4P	SNOW COURSE AND STORAGE PRECIPITATION GAGE
19K4MA	SNOW COURSE, SOIL MOISTURE AND AERIAL MARKER
19K4MP	SNOW COURSE, SOIL MOISTURE AND PRECIPITATION GAGE
19K45TZ	SNOW COURSE, SNOW PILLLOW AND TEMPERATURE RADIO TELEMETERED.

LOWER CASE LETTERS M, A, O, S, I, Z, INDICATE NO SNOW COURSE, ONLY A SOIL MOISTURE STATION, AERIAL MARKER, STORAGE PRECIPITATION GAGE, SNOW PILLLOW, TEMPERATURE, OR RADIO TELEMETERED.

*LOCATED ON ADJACENT WATERSHED

PROSPECTIVE WATER SUPPLY FOR NEVADA



WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK FOR NEVADA

AS OF MAY 1, NEVADA'S WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK FOR THE 1971 IRRIGATION SEASON REMAINS MOST FAVORABLE. SNOW SURVEYS TAKEN ON A LIMITED NUMBER OF KEY SNOW COURSES INDICATE A SIMILAR SNOW COVER PATTERN TO THAT SHOWN ON APRIL 1. THE TRUCKEE, UPPER OWYHEE, AND UPPER SNAKE RIVERS AND THE SURPRISE VALLEY AREA HAVE EXCELLENT SNOW COVER REMAINING AT THIS DATE. SNOWPACK ON THE CARSON DRAINAGE IS ABOVE AVERAGE. THE WALKER AND HUMBOLDT RIVER DRAINAGES HAVE A NEAR AVERAGE SNOWPACK FOR THIS DATE.

RESERVOIR STORAGE REMAINS EXCELLENT AND GOOD CARRYOVER INTO 1972 IS EXPECTED. CURRENT STORAGE IS 136 PERCENT OF AVERAGE, WITH ALL MAJOR RESERVOIRS THROUGHOUT THE STATE STORING MORE THAN NORMAL AMOUNTS.

SNOW COVER

May 1, 1971 snow surveys revealed that the high elevation snowpack is above average and very dense. Generally, the snowpack has just started to melt in the higher elevations although much of the lower elevation snowpack has diminished. The remaining snowpack by basin as a percent of average is as follows: Tahoe, 150 percent; Truckee, 180 percent; Carson, 125 percent; Walker, 102 percent; Humboldt, 105 percent; and the Upper Owyhee and Snake drainages above 150 percent. Near-average snowpack conditions exist in central and eastern Nevada. This year's pack has melted throughout southern Nevada. The high elevation snowpack in the portion of the Warner Mountains that drains into the Surprise Valley area is nearly twice average for this date.

STREAMFLOW FORECASTS

Lake Tahoe, Truckee, Carson, and Walker River May-July 1971 forecasts range from 98 to 161 percent of average. In general, April precipitation and temperatures were near normal. This produced near average streamflow conditions in the Truckee, Carson and Walker drainages, and forecasts remain relatively unchanged from those issued a month ago.

Lake Tahoe is forecast to rise 1.38 feet after May 1, assuming gates closed. This would raise the lake from its May 1 elevation of 6227.90 to 6229.28 feet above sea level. This would be 0.18 feet above the maximum elevation. Due to the delayed runoff this spring in the Truckee drainage, the Little Truckee and Truckee River are expected to have 152 and 161 percent of average flows during May, June, and July 1971.

May-July 1971 streamflow forecasts as a percent of average in northeastern Nevada are as follows: Owyhee, 150 percent; North Fork Humboldt, 117 percent; South Fork Humboldt, 114 percent; and Humboldt at Palisade, 106 percent.

In central and east central Nevada the streamflow outlook is for near average amounts this summer. The high elevation snow cover in White Pine County is above average for this date, and should produce good late season water this year.

RESERVOIR STORAGE

Storage in Nevada's principal reservoirs is currently 1,212,000 acre-feet, which is a gain of 37,000 acre-feet since April 1. These reservoirs now hold 85 percent of their capacity, and are at 136 percent of the May 1, 1953-67 average.

Wild Horse Reservoir is nearly full at this date, storing 71,000 acre-feet. Rye Patch Reservoir on the Lower Humboldt River is storing behind the flashboards, and contains 190,000 acre-feet of water. Water users under this system will have excellent supplies for the next two irrigation seasons. Lake Tahoe, Boca, Prosser, Lahontan, Topaz, and Bridgeport Reservoirs hold well above average contents and can be filled to capacity, subject to management decisions.

With the near to above average streamflow expected this summer and the excellent reservoir storage, prospects are for good to excellent carryover storage for the 1972 irrigation season.



STREAMFLOW FORECASTS (Thousand Acre Feet) as of: May 1, 1971

Forecasts are based on snow-water presently stored in the mountain watersheds and the assumption that precipitation will be near average throughout the forecast period. Peak flow forecasts indicate the most probable range for the maximum average 24-hour flow. All overages are for 1953-67 period.

FORECAST POINT	Forecast Period	Forecast This Year	This Year as Percent of Average	Average †
<u>TRUCKEE RIVER</u>				
Little Truckee River above Boca, Calif. ¹	May-July	90	152	59
Truckee River at Farad, Calif. ¹	May-July	305	161	189
Lake Tahoe Rise in Feet (From May 1 assuming gates closed)	May-High	1.38	130	1.06
<u>CARSON RIVER</u>				
East Carson near Gardnerville, Nevada	May-July	165	115	143
West Carson at Woodsfords, Calif.	May-July	49	122	40
Carson River near Carson City, Nevada	May-July	145	108	134
Carson River at Fort Churchill, Nevada	May-July	130	105	123
<u>WALKER RIVER</u>				
East Walker near Bridgeport, Calif. ¹	May-Aug.	53	98	54
West Walker below Little Walker near Coleville, Calif.	May-July	130	104	125
<u>COLORADO RIVER</u>				
Virgin River at Virgin, Utah	May-June	16	73	22
<u>HUMBOLDT RIVER</u>				
Lamoille Creek near Lamoille, Nevada	May-July	28	116	24
South Fork Humboldt near Elko, Nevada	May-July	57	114	50
Marys River above Hot Springs, Nevada	May-July	25	119	21
North Fork Humboldt at Devils Gate, Nevada	May-July	20	117	17
Humboldt River at Palisade, Nevada	May-July	130	106	122
Humboldt River at Comus, Nevada	May-July	90	105	85
Martin Creek near Paradise, Nevada	May-July	10	111	9

† 1953-1967 period.

STREAMFLOW FORECASTS (Thousand Acre Feet) as of: May 1, 1971

FORECAST POINT	Forecast Period	Forecast This Year	This Year as Percent of Average	Average †
<u>SNAKE RIVER</u>				
Owyhee River near Owyhee, Nevada ¹	May-July	50	131	38
Owyhee River near Gold Creek, Nevada ¹	May-July	12	150	8
Salmon Falls Creek near San Jacinto, Nevada	May-July	82	191	43
<u>SURPRISE VALLEY</u>				
Bidwell Creek near Ft. Bidwell, Calif.	May-July	14.0	155	9.0
Deep Creek near Cedarville, Calif.	May-July	3.6	163	2.2
Eagle Creek near Eagleville, Calif.	May-July	5.5	144	3.8
Mill Creek near Cedarville, Calif.	May-July	5.8	165	3.5
1 Corrected for storage				

† 1953-1967 period.

PEAK FLOWS (MAXIMUM MEAN DAILY) (Av. flow for 24 hrs. on day of greatest flow)

FORECAST POINT	PEAK FLOW (SECOND FEET)	
	Forecast Range	Average †
Little Truckee River - Inflow to Stampede Reservoir	1300-1575	902
East Fork Carson River near Gardnerville, Nevada	1750-1900	1724
Carson River near Carson City, Nevada	1800-1950	1825
Carson River at Fort Churchill, Nevada	1650-1735	1678
West Walker River below Little Walker near Coleville, Calif.	1500-1750	1548

FORECAST DATE of LOW FLOW VALUES

FORECAST POINT	Low Flow Value Second/ Ft.	Forecast Date: Stream Will Recede to Low Flow Value	Average Date of Low Flow Value
East Carson River near Gardnerville, Nevada	200	7/24	7/23

SOIL MOISTURE MEASUREMENTS

STATION	Profile (Inches)		Soil Moisture (Inches)		
	Depth	Capacity	Date	This Year	Average †
<u>OWYHEE-HUMBOLDT BASIN</u>					
Bear Creek	72	16.9	3/28	10.8	16.4 *
Big Bend	48	16.7	4/30	16.7	10.5 *
Rodeo Flat	42	11.0	3/24	5.7	8.3 *
Taylor Canyon	48	15.1	4/30	15.1	14.4 *
<u>TAHOE-TRUCKEE BASIN</u>					
Hagans Meadow	36	3.7	4/28	3.1	3.0 *
Independence Camp	34	6.1	4/26	2.6	5.4 *
Marlette Lake	50	3.7	4/27	2.1	3.5 *
Truckee #2	48	3.6	3/30	2.2	
Ward Creek	49	5.8	4/27	5.0	5.5 *
<u>WALKER BASIN</u>					
Sonora Pass	48	8.3	3/29	8.1	8.3 *
Virginia Lakes Ridge	40	5.0	3/25	2.3	
* Adjusted average					

† 1953-1967 period.

RESERVOIR STORAGE (Thousand Acre Feet) as of May 1, 1971

Basin or Stream	RESERVOIR	Usable Capacity	Usable Storage		
			This Year	Last Year	Average†
Owyhee	Wild Horse	72	71	26	25
Lower Humboldt	Rye Patch	179	190	173	83
Colorado	Mohave	1,810	1,706	1,612	1,717
Colorado	Mead	27,217	16,326	16,568	16,002
Tahoe	Tahoe	732	597	622	462
Truckee	Boca	41	33	20	25
Truckee	Prosser **	30	17	15	13 *
Truckee	Stampede	220	122	91	***
Carson	Lahontan	286	236	228	222
West Walker	Topaz	59	44	57	42
East Walker	Bridgeport	42	41	41	31
* Adjusted average ** Flood control use allocation of 20,000 acre-feet between November 1 and April 10. *** Storage began August 1, 1969					

TOTAL RESERVOIR STORAGE (Thousand Acre Feet)

MONTH	This Year	Last Year	Average †
October 1	936	999	656
January 1	1,026	1,062	660
February 1	1,072	1,255	715
March 1	1,105	1,206	768
April 1	1,175	1,182	839
May 1	1,212	1,167	890
The above data developed from Wild Horse, Rye Patch, Tahoe, Boca, Lahontan, Topaz, and Bridgeport Reservoirs in 1,000 Acre-Feet. TOTAL USABLE CAPACITY 1,411			

† 1953-1967 period.

SNOW COURSE MEASUREMENTS

SNOW COURSE MEASUREMENTS		THIS YEAR		PAST RECORD		
DRAINAGE BASIN and/or SNOW COURSE		Date of Survey	Snow Depth (Inches)	Water Content (Inches)	Water Content (inches)	
NAME					Last Year	Average †
LAKE TAHOE						
Echo Summit (Calif.)	4/30	75	35.7	25.1	22.4	
Freel Bench (Calif.)	4/28	9	3.7	1.4	-	
Hagans Meadow	4/28	16	6.8	8.9	-	
Heavenly Valley	4/28	71	32.9	-	-	
Marlette Lake	4/27	51	23.0	22.5	-	
Ward Creek #2 (Calif.)	4/27	110	53.0	35.1	-	
Ward Creek #3 (Calif.)	4/27	102	49.0	31.1	-	
TRUCKEE RIVER						
Donner Summit (Calif.)	4/27	105	51.5a	21.7	28.9	
Fordyce Lake (Calif.)	4/28	115	59.4	23.4	31.7*	
Furnace Flat (Calif.)	4/28	126	71.9	32.5	39.6*	
Independence Camp (Calif.)	4/26	63	28.0	8.8	14.4*	
Independence Creek (Calif.)	4/26	37	13.7	2.1	-	
Independence Lake (Calif.)	4/26	142	59.6	41.9	34.8*	
Mt. Rose Ski Area	4/30	109	52.4	48.2	-	
Sage Hen Creek (Calif.)	4/26	49	19.0	4.4	-	
Squaw Valley #2 (Calif.)	4/30	137	65.1	49.1	-	
CARSON RIVER						
Blue Lakes	4/28	85	39.8	36.6	29.7	
Carson Pass, Upper (Calif.)	4/29	81	39.5	26.3	31.5	
WALKER RIVER						
Sonora Pass (Calif.)	4/29	40	19.5	18.1	18.0*	
Virginia Lakes (Calif.)	No Survey			12.8	13.5*	
Virginia Lakes Ridge (Calif.)	4/29	32	12.8	12.4	-	
NORTHERN GREAT BASIN						
Cedar Pass (Calif.)	4/30	46	20.4	14.7	9.8	
OWYHEE RIVER						
Big Bend	4/30	1	0.1	5.1	0.9*	
Gold Creek	4/30	0	0.0	4.4	0.0*	
Jack Creek, Lower	4/30	0	0.0	T	0.2*	
Jacks Peak	4/30	101	38.5	20.7	26.6*	
Taylor Canyon	4/30	0	0.0	T	0.1*	
Jack Creek, Upper	4/30	17	6.6	8.7	3.5*	

† 1953-1967 period.

SNOW COURSE MEASUREMENTS

SNOW COURSE MEASUREMENTS				THIS YEAR		PAST RECORD	
DRAINAGE BASIN and/or SNOW COURSE		Date of Survey	Snow Depth (Inches)	Water Content (Inches)	Water Content (inches)		
NAME					Last Year	Average †	
<u>SNAKE RIVER</u>							
Bear Creek	4/29	62	23.8a	-	19.4*		
Goat Creek	4/28	80	29.7	-	18.2*		
Hummingbird Springs	4/28	103	38.0	-	22.8*		
Pole Creek Ranger Station	4/28	83	31.9	30.6	21.6*		
Red Point	4/29	39	15.0a	-	9.0*		
<u>UPPER HUMBOLDT RIVER</u>							
Fry Canyon	4/30	0	0.0	4.7	1.0*		
Green Mountain	4/30	22	8.0	11.4	-		
Lamoille #1	5/1	0	0.0	7.3	-		
Lamoille #2	5/1	9	2.6	8.6	-		
Lamoille #3	5/1	23	8.1	13.3	-		
Lamoille #4	5/1	56	26.9	22.5	-		
Lamoille #5	5/1	78	35.3	36.8	-		
Rodeo Flat	4/30	0	0.0	3.0	1.2*		
Tremewan Ranch	4/30	0	0.0	T	-		
<u>EASTERN NEVADA</u>							
Berry Creek	4/29	61	19.4	15.4	14.0*		
<div>NOTE: All averages based on 1953-67, 15 year period. Forecast period is April 1 through July 31 unless otherwise noted. a-Aerial marker; water content estimated. * 1953-67 adjusted average.</div>							

† 1953-1967 period.

U.S.D.A. SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE DAILY RADIO REPORTS BY AUTOMATIC SNOW MEASURING STATION

DAILY 8:00 A.M. OBSERVATIONS
Redlined by

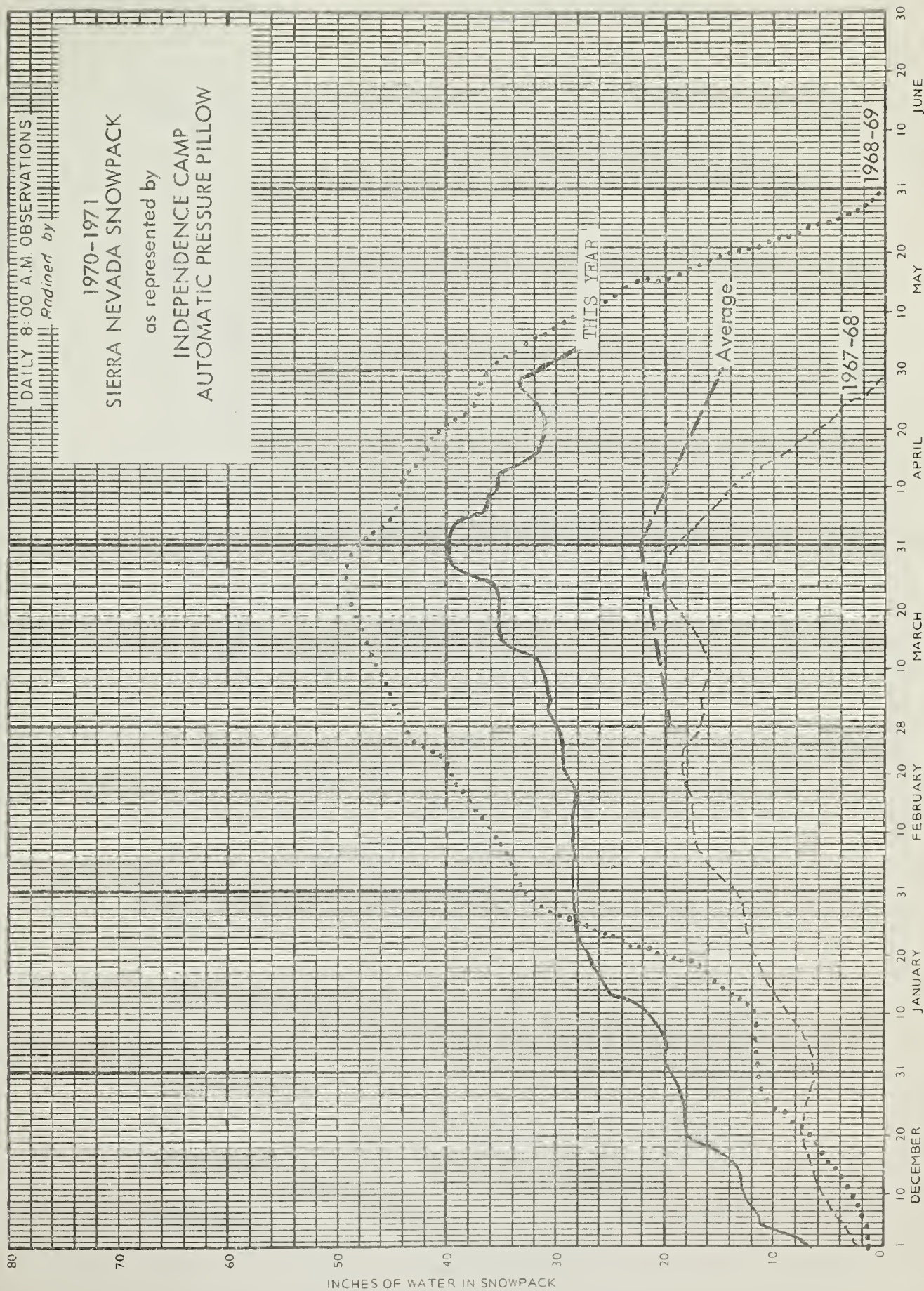
1970-1971

SIERRA NEVADA SNOWPACK

as represented by

INDEPENDENCE CAMP

AUTOMATIC PRESSURE PILLOW



INCHES OF WATER IN SNOWPACK

Agencies Cooperating in Collecting Data Contained in this Bulletin

FEDERAL

Agricultural Research Service
Bureau of Reclamation
Fish and Wildlife Service
Forest Service
Geological Survey
Navy
Soil Conservation Service
U. S. District Court - Federal Water Master
Weather Bureau

STATE

California Cooperative Snow Surveys
California Department of Parks and Recreation
California Department of Water Resources
Colorado River Commission of Nevada
Idaho Cooperative Snow Surveys
Nevada Association of Soil Conservation Districts
Nevada Department of Conservation & Natural Resources
 Division of Water Resources
 Nevada State Forester
Oregon Cooperative Snow Surveys
Utah Cooperative Snow Surveys
White Mountain Research Station, Univ. of California

PRIVATE

Amalgamated Sugar Company
Kennecott Copper Corporation
Nevada Irrigation District
Owyhee Project North Board of Control
Owyhee Project South Board of Control
Pacific Gas and Electric Company
Pershing County Water Conservancy District
Sierra Pacific Power Company
Truckee-Carson Irrigation District
Walker River Irrigation District
Washoe County Water Conservancy District

Other organizations and individuals furnish valuable information for the snow survey reports. Their Cooperation is gratefully acknowledged.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

P.O. Box 4850

RENO, NEVADA 89505

OFFICIAL BUSINESS



POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

FIRST CLASS MAIL

FEDERAL - STATE - PRIVATE
COOPERATIVE SNOW SURVEYS

Furnishes the basic data
necessary for forecasting
water supply for irrigation,
domestic and municipal water
supply, hydro-electric power
generation, navigation,
mining and industry

*"The Conservation of Water begins
with the Snow Survey"*